THE PRINCIPAL

ACTS

OF THE

General Assembly

OF THE

CHURCH

OF

SCOTLAND,

CONVENED AT EDINBURGH, THE 20th DAY OF MAY 1790.

COLLECTED AND EXTRACTED FROM THE RECORDS BY THE CLERK THEREOF.

EDINBURGH:

PRINTED BY JAMES DICKSON, PRINTER TO THE CHURCH OF *SCOTLAND.*

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THE PRINCIPAL

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General Assembly

OF THE

CHURCH of SCOTLAND,

Begun at EDINBURGH, the 20th day of MAY 1790, and concluded the 31ſt Day of the ſaid Month and Year.

I.

The KING's Commiſſion to DAVID Earl of LEVEN produced, and ordered to be recorded.

Edinburgh, May 20. 1790.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY of this NATIONAL CHURCH being convened and conſtituted, there was produced to them, by the Right Honourable DAVID Earl of LEVEN, the KING's Commiſſion, ſealed with the ſeal appointed by the Treaty of Union to be kept and uſed in *Scotland*, in place of the Great Seal of *Scotland*, making and conſtituting him his Majeſty's High Commiſſioner and

and Repreſentative in this Aſſembly; which Commiſſion was publicly read with all due honour and reſpect, and ordered to be recorded in the Books of Aſſembly;—the tenor whereof follows:

GEORGIUS, *Dei gratia, Magnæ Britanniæ, Franciæ et Hiberniæ Rex, Fidei Defenſor: Omnibus probis hominibus, ad quos præſentes literæ noſtræ pervenerint, ſalutem. Quandoquidem Nos conſiderantes, quod generalis eccleſiæ Scotiæ conventus in vigeſimum diem Maii proximi convenire ordinatus fuit; Noſque abundè cupidi, et neceſſarium eſſe judicantes in commodum dictæ eccleſiæ, ut idem eccleſiæ generalis conventus die ſtatuto debitè obſervetur, atque rebus magni momenti nos aliò vocantibus, dicto conventui perſonaliter intereſſe nequimus; Noſque abundè ſatisfacti de ſufficientiâ et fidelitate fideliſſimi et prædilectiſſimi noſtri conſanguinei* Davidis Comitis de Leven, *quod ad ſummum munus noſtri ſupremi Commiſſionarii ad dictum generalem conventum ritè exercendum et obeundum uſquequaque ſit inſtructus: Noveritis igitur, Nos nominaſſe, conſtituiſſe, et ordinaſſe, tenoreque præſentium, nominare, conſtituere, et ordinare, memoratum, fideliſſimum et prædilectiſſimum noſtrum conſanguineum* Davidem Comitem de Leven, *ſupremum noſtrum Commiſſionarium dicto generali eccleſiæ Scotiæ conventui, dando et concedendo illi plenam poteſtatem, commiſſionem, et warrantum, ſacram noſtram perſonam et auctoritatem regalem repræſentandi, nec non præſentiam noſtram ſupplendi, et locum noſtrum in dicto ſubſequenti generali conventu, tanquam Commiſſionario noſtro ad hunc effectum ſpecialiter conſtituto, tenendi, omniaque alia ad imperium et munus Commiſſionarii pro generali eccleſiæ conventu peragendi, tam plenè adeoque liberè in quovis reſpectu, quam quilibet alius in eodem ſummo munere fecerat, ſeu quovis tempore præterito facere potuerat, vel ac ſi nos ipſi perſonaliter præſentes facere potuerimus. Quæque omnia et ſingula quæ dictus* David Comes de Leven, *in hac noſtra commiſſione proſequenda legitimè fecerit, ſeu fieri ordinaverit, nos firmiter approbamus, et ratificamus. Inſuper omnibus et ſingulis dicti conventûs et eccleſiæ paſtoribus et preſbyteris cæteriſque quibuſcunque, intra illam partem Magnæ Britanniæ* Scotiam *vocatam, ſubditis noſtris, cujuſcunque gradûs ſeu qualitatis, ut dictum* Davidem Comitem de Leven, *tanquam ſupremum noſtrum Commiſſionarium, quoad effectum et modum ſupra mentionatum, revereantur, agnoſcant et audiant, ſtrictè mandamus et præcipimus: Atque hanc noſtram Commiſſionem a dicto vigeſimo die Maii proximi incipere, et deinceps durante ſubſequente ſeſſione dicti generalis conventûs in vigore continuare, declaramus, vel uſque dum a nobis revocabitur, et exonerabitur.*

In

In cujus rei teſtimonium, præſentibus ſigillum noſtrum per unionis tractatum cuſtodiend. et in Scotiâ vice et loco Magni Sigilli ejuſdem utend. ordinat. appendi mandavimus. Apud aulam noſtram apud St James's, vigeſimo-primo die Aprilis, anno Domini milleſimo ſeptingenteſimo et nonageſimo, Regnique noſtri anno trigeſimo.

Per ſignaturam manu S. D. N. Regis ſupraſcriptam.

II.

The KING's moſt gracious Letter to the General Aſſembly, preſented to them by his Majeſty's ommiſſioner.

GEORGE R.

RIGHT REVEREND and Well-beloved, We greet you well.—The many proofs which you have given of your loyalty and attachment to Our Perſon and Government, and of your zeal for the promotion of Chriſtian Piety and Learning, and encouragement of true Religion and Virtue, have made the ſtrongeſt impreſſions on Our Mind, and muſt inſure to you the continuance of Our Paternal Affection and Regard; and it is with great ſatisfaction that We embrace this opportunity of renewing to you thoſe favourable teſtimonies which We have ſo often borne to your conduct, and of repeating to you Our determination to preſerve and maintain the Church of Scotland, as by law eſtabliſhed, in the full and free enjoyment of all its rights and privileges.

We truſt that your proceedings on the preſent occaſion will be directed to the primary and important objects of maintaining the great cauſe of Religion, of checking the growth of Vice and Immorality, of enforcing obedience to the Laws, and promoting the practice of all Chriſtian duties; and that you will endeavour, to the utmoſt of your power, to diffuſe a ſpirit of Charity and Benevolence among all deſcriptions of men.

We have again conſtituted and appointed Our Right Truſty and Right Well-beloved Couſin, DAVID, Earl of LEVEN, to be Our Commiſſioner to repreſent Our Perſon and Royal Authority in the preſent Aſſembly; not doubting, but that the ſame diſtinguiſhed qualifications which have recommended him to Our repeated choice, will continue to make him acceptable to you in the execution of the high and important truſt committed to his care.

We have now only to recommend to you the ſame moderation, judgment, and propriety of conduct, which have hitherto diſtinguiſhed your proceedings: We truſt that you will continue to avoid all unneceſſary diſputes and altercations; and that the example which you ſet, may be effectual in promoting harmony and good-will among all Our ſubjects belonging to the Church of Scotland. And ſo We bid you heartily farewell.——Given at Our Court at St James's, the 15th day of May 1790, in the thirtieth year of Our reign.

By his Majeſty's Command,

W. W. GRENVILLE.

Addreſſed thus:—*To the Right Reverend and Well-beloved the Moderator, Miniſters and Elders of the General Aſſembly of the Church of Scotland.*

III.

The General Aſſembly's Anſwer to the KING's moſt gracious Letter.

May it pleaſe Your Majeſty,

THE gracious letter with which Your Majeſty hath honoured this meeting of the General Aſſembly of this National Church, was received with the utmoſt reſpect and gratitude.

It

It affords us high ſatisfaction, in the diſcharge of our duty, that our loyalty and attachment to Your Majeſty's Perſon and Government, and our zeal in promoting Chriſtian Piety and Learning, and in encouraging true Religion and Virtue, have made a favourable impreſſion upon Your Royal Mind; and we ſhall proceed with alacrity in a line of conduct which Your Majeſty has graciouſly declared will inſure us a continuance of Your Paternal Affection and Regard. We cheriſh the remembrance of the repeated teſtimonies of Royal Approbation which we have formerly received: We look up to Your Majeſty as the Nurſing Father of the Church; and we rely on Your Majeſty's determination to preſerve and maintain the Church of Scotland, as by law eſtabliſhed, in the full and free enjoyment of all its rights and privileges.

We truſt that we ſhall never loſe ſight of the primary and important objects to which Your Majeſty is pleaſed to direct our attention: And it is our happineſs to know, that we live under the government of a Prince to whom we cannot give any proof of Loyalty ſo acceptable as the exertion of our ſtrenuous endeavours in maintaining the great cauſe of Religion, in checking the growth of Vice and Immorality, in enforcing obedience to the Laws, in promoting the practice of all Chriſtian duties, and in diffuſing a ſpirit of Charity and Benevolence.

We regard the appointment of the EARL of LEVEN, to repreſent Your Royal Perſon in the preſent Aſſembly, as a freſh mark of Your Majeſty's favour to the Church of Scotland. His warm attachment, like that of his anceſtors, to this Church, his zeal for the intereſts of Religion, the virtues of his life, and our happy experience of thoſe diſtinguiſhed qualifications which have recommended him to Your Majeſty's repeated choice, conſpire to render him moſt acceptable to us in the execution of the high and important truſt committed to him.

We receive, with much thankfulneſs, Your Royal Donation for promoting the knowledge of the Proteſtant Religion in the Highlands and Iſlands of Scotland; and we ſhall ſtudy to ſhew ourſelves not unworthy of the confidence which Your Majeſty is pleaſed to repoſe in us, by applying it, with fidelity and diligence, to the pious and important purpoſe for which it is beſtowed.

Your

Your Majeſty has ſhown the moſt gracious attention to the dignity and efficacy of our proceedings, by recommending moderation and propriety of conduct. We wiſh moſt earneſtly to avoid all unneceſſary diſputes and altercations; and we feel that it is the duty of the Miniſters of the PRINCE of PEACE, to ſet an example of that harmony and good-will which they inculcate upon the people committed to their care, as moſt congenial to the ſpirit of our Religion, and moſt eſſential to the happineſs of Society.

That the God and Father of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, by whom Kings reign, may preſerve Your Majeſty's Perſon, and direct Your Councils;—that He may bleſs the QUEEN, the PRINCE of WALES, and all the Royal Family;—that He may continue to us the many National Bleſſings in which Your Subjects now rejoice;—that, after a long and proſperous reign over a free, a happy, and a grateful people, You may receive that Crown which fadeth not away;—and that a race of Princes, deſcended from Your Illuſtrious Houſe, and formed after Your example, may, to the lateſt poſterity, ſway the Britiſh Sceptre with moderation and renown, are the earneſt prayers of,

May it pleaſe Your Majeſty,
Your Majeſty's moſt faithful,
Moſt obedient, and moſt loyal ſubjects,

The Miniſters and Elders met in this National Aſſembly of the Church of Scotland.

Signed in our name,
In our preſence,
And at our appointment, by

Edinburgh, May 22. 1790.

JOHN WALKER, *Moderator.*

IV.

IV.

COMMISSION of the GENERAL ASSEMBLY, to certain Miniſters and Ruling Elders, for diſcuſſing Affairs referred to them.

Edinburgh, May 29. 1790. *Seſſ.* 9.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY did, and hereby do nominate, commiſſion, and appoint, the Reverend Dr JOHN WALKER, Miniſter of Collington, and *Regius* Profeſſor of Natural Hiſtory in the Univerſity of Edinburgh, their Moderator: And,—From the *Preſbytery* of *Ayr*, Mr William Auld at Mauchlin, Dr Andrew Mitchell at Monkton, Mr James Young at New Cumnock, Mr Alexander Moodie at Riccarton, Mr David Grant at Ochiltree, *Miniſters;* John Hamilton, Eſq; of Bargeny, Thomas Kennedy, Eſq; of Denure, *Ruling Elders:*—From the *Burgh* of *Ayr*, George Ferguſſon, Eſq; advocate:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Irvine*, Dr James Woodrow at Stevenſton, Mr David MacClellan at Beith, Mr John Duncan at Ardroſſan, *Miniſters;* the Honourable Mr Patrick Boyle of Shewalton, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Paiſley*, Dr John Snodgraſs at Paiſley, Mr John Monteith *junior*, at Neilſton, Mr John Finlay at Paiſley, Mr James Steven at Lochwinnoch, *Miniſters;* Mr John Orr *ſenior*, manufacturer in Paiſley, Mr Robert Barclay, manufacturer there, *Ruling Elders:*—From the *Burgh* of *Renfrew*, Mr Andrew Arthur in Loanhead:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Hamilton*, Mr Henry Stevenſon at Blantyre, Mr John Scott at Avendale, Mr Alexander Fleming at Hamilton, *Miniſters;* John Hamilton, Eſq; of Weſtburn, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Lanark*, Mr Robert Inglis at Carmichael, Mr Robert Buchanan at Leſmehagow, *Miniſters;* Profeſſor Archibald Arthur, Glaſgow, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Burgh* of *Lanark*, John Bannatyne of Caſtlebank, Eſq;:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Glaſgow*, Mr Alexander Dobie at Eagleſham, Mr William Dun at Kirkintilloch, Mr James Lapſlie at Campſie, Mr Robert Rennie at Kilſyth, *Miniſters;* Thomas Muir,

Eſq; advocate, Mr William Hoſier, merchant in Glaſgow, *Ruling Elders*:—From the *City* of *Glaſgow*, Archibald Campbell, Eſq; advocate:—From the *Univerſity* of *Glaſgow*, Profeſſor Hugh Macleod, Glaſgow:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dumbarton*, Mr James Oliphant at Dumbarton, Mr Gordon Stewart at Bonhill, Mr George Drummond at Roſeneath, *Miniſters*; the Lord Preſident, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of *Dumbarton*, Mr John Key, Dean of Guild of Dumbarton:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dunoon*, Mr Charles Stewart at Strathchur, Mr John Mackinnon at Kilmodan, *Miniſters*; John Lamont of Lamont, Eſq; *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Kintyre*, Dr John Smith at Campbelton, Mr Alexander Campbell at Kilcalmonel, Mr Archibald Robertſon at Kildalton in Iſlay, *Miniſters*; Archibald MacDonald of Sanda, Eſq; *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of *Campbelton*, William Campbell of Fairfield, Eſq;:—From the *Burgh* of *Inveraray*, Profeſſor James Williamſon, Glaſgow:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Lorn*, Mr Donald MacNicol at Liſmore, Mr John Macfarlane at Kilbrandan, *Miniſters*; John Campbell, Eſq; of Lochend, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dunkeld*, Mr Robert Williamſon at Lethendy, Mr James Patrick Bannerman at Cargill, Mr William Chalmers at Auchtergaven, Mr Archibald Menzies at Dull, *Miniſters*; David Stuart, Eſq; banker in Edinburgh, John Hagart, Eſq; advocate, *Ruling Elders*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Perth*, Mr David Bannerman at St Martins, Mr David Beatſon at Dumbarney, Mr David Black at St Madoes, Mr Anthony Dow at Kilſpindie, *Miniſters*; Mr Alexander Bonar, banker in Edinburgh, Mr Walter Millar, writer in Perth, *Ruling Elders*:—From the *Burgh* of *Perth*, John Caw, Eſq; preſent Provoſt:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Stirling*, Mr James Sommerville at Stirling, Mr William Sheriff at St Ninians, *Miniſters*; Sir William Murray of Touchadam, Bart., *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Auchterarder*, Mr John Wright at Trinity Gaſk, Mr Thomas Bartie at Monzie, Mr John Brown at Glendovan, *Miniſters*; the Honourable Henry Erſkine, Dean of Faculty, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dumblane*, Mr John Kinroſs at Lecropt, Mr John Campbell at Kippen, *Miniſters*; William MacLauchlan, Eſq; of Auchintroig, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dunfermline*, Mr Alexander Thomſon at Carnock, Mr Patrick Spence at Orwell, Mr William Daling at Cleiſh, *Miniſters*; Sir Charles Preſton of Valleyfield, *Ruling Elder*:

Elder:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Kirkaldie*, Mr George Shaw at Abbotſhall, Mr Andrew Grant at Portmoak, Mr Thomas Scott at Ballingrie, *Miniſters*; the Right Honourable the Earl of Leven, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of *Kirkaldie*, Mr Robert Philp, merchant, and one of the Bailies of Kirkaldie:—From the *Burgh* of *Kinghorn*, Andrew Hamilton, Eſq; Provoſt of Kinghorn:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Cupar*, Dr Michael Greenlaw at Creich, Mr Samuel Martin at Monymail, Mr Robert Arnot at Ceres, Mr Andrew Brown at Falkland, *Miniſters*; James Blyth, Eſq; of Kinnenmounth, Mr James Balfour at Kilmeny, *Ruling Elders*:—From the *Burgh* of *Cupar*, Major John Melvill of Cairney:—From the *Preſbytery* of *St Andrews*, Dr Robert Dalglieſh at Ferry-port-on-craigs, Dr John Adamſon at St Andrews, Mr Archibald Gillies at St Monance, Mr Alexander Brodie at Carnbee, *Miniſters*; Lieut. Col. Alexander Monypenny, Mr Henry-David Hill, Profeſſor of Greek, St Andrews, *Ruling Elders*:—From the *Burgh* of *St Andrews*, Dr Andrew Duncan, phyſician in Edinburgh:—From the *Univerſity* of *St Andrews*, Dr George Hill, Profeſſor of Divinity in St Mary's College:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Meigle*, Mr James Ogilvy at Eaſſie, Mr James Edward at Lintrathen, Mr James Badenoch at Kingoldrum, *Miniſters*; George Robertſon-Scott, Eſq; of Benholm, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Forfar*, Mr Thomas Wright at Reſcobie, Mr James Lyon at Glammis, *Miniſters*; Alexander Watſon, Eſq; younger, of Turin, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dundee*, Mr William Maule at Monikie, Mr John Anderſon at Dundee, Mr William Reid at Dundee, *Miniſters*; Mr Alexander Thoms, merchant in Dundee, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Aberbrothock*, Mr Robert Trail at Panbride, Mr Alexander Chaplin at Kinnell, *Miniſters*; Mr Thomas Miln, merchant in Canongate, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Brechin*, Mr John Waugh at Menmuir, Mr Alexander Peter at Logiepert, Mr James Mitchell at Montroſe, *Miniſters*; James Wauchope, Eſq; *junior*, of Edmonſtone, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of *Montroſe*, Adam Gillies, Eſq; advocate:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Fordoun*, Mr Robert Foot at Fettercairn, Mr Robert Crole at Bervie, Mr John Brymer at Marykirk, *Miniſters*; Robert Cullen, Eſq; advocate, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Aberdeen*, Mr George Abercrombie at Aberdeen, Dr John Brown at Newhills, Mr William Strachan at Duires,

Duires, Mr George Moriſon at Banchory Devenick, *Miniſters;* William Robertſon, Eſq; advocate, Procurator for the Church, John Gordon, Eſq; of Craig, *Ruling Elders:*—From *Mariſhall College*, Profeſſor Robert Hamilton, Aberdeen:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Kincardine O'neal*, Mr Charles MacHardy at Crathie, Mr Joſeph Smith at Birſe, Mr Alexander Robertſon at Coull, *Miniſters;* William MacDonald, Eſq; of Rineaton, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Alford*, Mr Thomas Birnie at Alford, Mr George Donaldſon at Kenethmont, Mr John Gordon at Strathdon, *Miniſters;* James Gordon, Eſq; younger, of Craig, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Garioch*, Mr James Douglas at Premnay, Mr Patrick Davidſon at Rayne, Mr Patrick Mitchell at Kemnay, *Miniſters;* George Buchan-Hepburn, Eſq; advocate, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Burgh* of *Kintore*, the Honourable Lord Henderland:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Deer*, Mr James Johnſton at Cremond, Mr John Lundie at Loanmay, Mr Alexander Simpſon at Fraſerſburgh, *Miniſters;* Mr John Taylor, clerk to the Signet, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Turriff*, Mr William Stuart at Turriff, Mr Robert Ballingall at Forglen, *Miniſters;* Mr Alexander Forbes, writer in Edinburgh, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Fordyce*, Mr James Lawtie at Fordyce, Mr Andrew Skene at Banff, *Miniſters;* Mr George Andrew, writer in Edinburgh, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Strathbogie*, Mr John Cooper at Glaſs, Mr William Greig at Rothiemay, *Miniſters;* Coſmo Gordon, Eſq; of Cluny, Baron of Exchequer, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Aberlour*, Mr Francis Grant at Knockando, Mr George Cruickſhank at Rothes, *Miniſters;* Iſaac Grant of Hilton, Eſq; writer to the Signet, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Abernethy*, Mr Patrick Grant at Duthill, Mr John Gordon at Alvey, *Miniſters;* Dr Gregory Grant, phyſician in Edinburgh, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Elgin*, Mr William Gordon at Urquhart, Mr William Gordon at Elgin, *Miniſters;* Mr Thomas Gordon, writer to the Signet, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Burgh* of *Elgin*, William Scott, Eſq; banker in Edinburgh:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Forres*, Mr John Hoyes at Kinloſs, Mr David Miln at Dollas, *Miniſters;* Mr Alexander Henry, factor to the Laird of Birdyards at Sanquhar, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Nairne*, Mr Alexander Grant at Calder, Mr Pryce Campbell at Arderſier, *Miniſters;* Mr William Dunbar, writer to the Signet,

Signet, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Inverneſs*, Mr George Watſon at Inverneſs, Mr Alexander Gordon at Daviot, *Miniſters*; Robert MacIntoſh, Eſq; advocate, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of *Inverneſs*, Simon Fraſer, Eſq; of Faraline:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Chanonry*, Mr Robert Arthur at Kirkmichael, Mr David Dunoon *junior* at Killiarnen, *Miniſters*; Convener John Lindſay, Edinburgh, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Tain*, Mr Andrew Gally at Kincardine, Mr John Roſs at Logie Eaſter, *Miniſters*; the Honourable Lord Ankerville, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of *Tain*, Robert Colt, Eſq; of Auldhame:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dingwall*, Mr Roderick Mackenzie at Contin, Mr Donald Mackenzie at Fodertie, *Miniſters*; Mr Kenneth Mackenzie *junior*, writer to the Signet, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Sky*, Mr Malcolm Macleod at Snizort, Mr Roderick Macleod at Bracadale, *Miniſters*; the Right Honourable Alexander Lord MacDonald, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dornoch*, Mr William Mackenzie at Aſſint, Mr Walter Roſs at Clyne, *Miniſters*; Robert-Bruce-Æneas Macleod of Cadboll, Eſq; *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Tong*, Mr William Mackenzie at Tong, Mr James Dingwall at Farr, *Miniſters*; Mr William MacLean, merchant in Edinburgh, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of *Wick*, James Horn, Eſq; writer to the Signet:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Kirkwall*, Mr William Anderſon at Evie and Rendall, Mr James Watſon at South Ronaldſay, *Miniſters*; Mr Alexander Youngſon, writer, Edinburgh, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Cairſtone*, Mr James Bremner at Walls and Flottay, Mr George Low at Birſay and Harray, *Miniſters*; John Clerk, Eſq; advocate, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *North Iſles*, Mr William Clouſton at Croſs and Burneſs, Mr James Leſlie at Rouſay, *Miniſters*; John Wilde, Eſq; advocate, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Zetland*, Mr William Mitchell at Tingwall, Mr John Moriſon at Delting, *Miniſters*; Profeſſor Andrew Dalzel, of the College of Edinburgh, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Edinburgh*, Mr Henry Lundie, Dr James Macknight, Mr John Kemp, at Edinburgh, Sir Henry Moncreiff-Wellwood at St Cuthberts, Mr Robert Walker, Canongate, Mr William Cameron at Kirknewton and Eaſt Calder, *Miniſters*; Bailie William Galloway, merchant in Edinburgh, Mr John Haddoway, merchant in South Leith, Bailie Daniel Miller, merchant in Canongate, *Ruling Elders*:—From the *City*

of *Edinburgh*, the Right Honourable Thomas Elder, Lord Provoſt of Edinburgh, Mr Orlando Hart, Deacon-convener of the Trades:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Linlithgow*, Mr John Ritchie at Abercorn, Mr William Finlay at Polmont, Mr Walter Jardine at Bathgate, Mr John Williſon at Weſt Calder, *Miniſters;* the Honourable Robert Sandilands, Mr John Gloag, merchant in Edinburgh, *Ruling Elders:*—From the *Burgh* of *Linlithgow*, Robert Clerk, Eſq; late Provoſt of Linlithgow:—From the *Burgh* of *Queensferry*, Robert Blair, Eſq; His Majeſty's Solicitor-General:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Biggar*, Mr Thomas Mitchell at Lamington, Mr John Fraſer at Liberton, Mr Patrick Molliſon at Walſton, *Miniſters;* John Brown of Coultermains, Eſq; *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Peebles*, Mr William Welch at Drummelzier, Mr William Marſhall at Manner, *Miniſters;* James Montgomery, Eſq; advocate, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Burgh* of *Peebles*, Andrew Hamilton of Spittlehaugh, Eſq;:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dalkeith*, Dr Alexander Carlyle at Invereſk, Mr James Finlayſon at Borthwick, Mr William Torrence at Glencroſs, *Miniſters;* the Right Honourable Robert Dundas, Lord Advocate, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Haddington*, Mr James Innes at Yeſter, Mr Robert Scott at Haddington, Mr Andrew Niſbet at Garvald, *Miniſters;* John Hamilton, Eſq; of Pencaitland, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Burgh* of *Haddington*, the Moſt Honourable George Marquis of Tweeddale:—From the *Burgh* of *North Berwick*, Hew Dalrymple, Eſq; younger of North Berwick:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dunbar*, Mr John Martin at Spott, Mr Andrew Spence at Cockſburnſpath, *Miniſters;* John Anderſon of Winterfield, Eſq; *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dunſe*, Mr Alexander Girvan at *Langton*, Mr John Tod at Fogo, *Miniſters;* Matthew Sandilands, Eſq; of Couſton, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Churnſide*, Mr David Young at Foulden, Mr Adam Landells at Hutton, *Miniſters;* John Stewart, Eſq; younger of Allanbank, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Kelſo*, Mr Cornelius Lundie at Kelſo, Mr James Richardſon at Mackerſton, *Miniſters;* the Right Honourable Henry Dundas, Treaſurer of the Navy, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Jedburgh*, Dr Thomas Sommerville at Jedburgh, Dr Samuel Charters at Wilton, Mr Robert Gillan at Hawick, *Miniſters;* Mr James Dickſon, bookſeller in Edinburgh, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Lauder*, Mr Alexander Duncan at Gordon,

don, Mr William Shiells at Weſtruther, *Miniſters;* Thomas Cleghorn, Eſq; *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Burgh* of *Lauder*, the Right Honourable James Earl of Lauderdale:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Selkirk*, Dr Robert Cramond at Yarrow, Mr Robert Douglas at Galaſhiells, *Miniſters;* William Elliot younger of Borthwickbrae, Eſq; *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Burgh* of *Selkirk*, Mr James Roughead, late merchant in Edinburgh:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Langholm*, Mr John Ruſſell at Cannoby, Mr William Little at Weſterkirk, *Miniſters;* Mr James Saunders, writer to the Signet, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Lochmaben*, Dr William Bryden at Dalton, Mr Thomas Henderſon at Dryſdale, Mr William Sibbald at Johnſton, *Miniſters;* Mr Francis Armſtrong, merchant in Edinburgh, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Burgh* of *Lochmaben*, Mr Archibald Douglas, writer in Edinburgh:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Penpont*, Mr John Robertſon at Kirkconnel, Mr John Yorſtoun at Morton, *Miniſters;* John MacMurdo, Eſq; at Drumlanrig, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Burgh* of *Sanquhar*, Mr John Peat, writer in Edinburgh:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dumfries*, Dr Bryce Johnſton at Holywood, Mr William Burnſide at Dumfries, Mr Edward Neilſon at Kirkbean, *Miniſters;* Robert Riddell of Glenriddell, Eſq; *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Burgh* of *Dumfries*, Alexander Fergusſon of Craigdarroch, Eſq;:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Kirkcudbright*, Mr John Gilleſpie at Kells, Mr Robert Mutter at Kirkcudbright, Dr John Scott at Twynholm, *Miniſters;* John Gordon of Carleton, Eſq; *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Wigton*, Mr John Steven at Mochrum, Mr John Garlies-Maitland at Minygaff, *Miniſters;* Mr Alexander Burton, merchant in Wigton, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Burgh* of *Wigton*, George Cranſton, Eſq; of Dewar:—From the *Burgh* of *Whithorn*, John Buſhby, Eſq; Sheriff-Clerk of Dumfries:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Stranraer*, Mr Robert Callander at Kirkmaiden, Mr Henry Blain at Stonykirk, *Miniſters;* the Honourable Patrick Maitland of Freugh, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Burgh* of *Stranraer*, Mr Thomas Smith, writer in Edinburgh:—And the General Aſſembly added thereto, Dr Thomas Hardy, one of the miniſters of the City, and Profeſſor of Church Hiſtory in the Univerſity of Edinburgh, in place of the Moderator; together with all thoſe whoſe Commiſſions were rejected on account of informality, *viz.* For the *Preſbytery* of *Mull*, Mr Norman Macleod at Morven, Mr Dugald Campbell at Roſs,

Miniſters;

Miniſters; Allan MacDougall of Galanach, Eſq; *Ruling Elder:*—For the *Burgh* of *Cullen*, Mr John Gordon *junior*, of Cairnfield, advocate:—And for the *Preſbytery* of *Caithneſs*, Mr John Cameron at Halkirk, Mr William Smith at Bower, *Miniſters;* John Dickſon, Eſq; advocate, *Ruling Elder:*—To BE COMMISSIONERS of this General Aſſembly, to the effect after mentioned; with power to the ſaid Commiſſioners, or their quorum, which is hereby declared to be any thirty-one of the ſaid Commiſſioners, whereof twenty-one are always to be miniſters, to meet and convene within the Aſſembly-houſe at Edinburgh, the firſt day after the diſſolution of this Aſſembly, at ten of the clock in the forenoon; and thereafter, the ſecond Wedneſday of Auguſt, third Wedneſday of November, and the firſt Wedneſday of March next to come, and oftener, when and where they ſhall think fit and convenient, with power to the ſaid Commiſſioners to chuſe their own Moderator: And likewiſe, the General Aſſembly fully empowers their ſaid Commiſſioners, or their quorum above mentioned, to cognoſce and finally determine, as they ſhall ſee cauſe, in every matter referred, or that ſhall be referred to them, by an act or order of this Aſſembly; and to do every thing contained in, and conform to the inſtructions given, or to be given by this Aſſembly; and to advert to the intereſt of the Church on every occaſion, that the Church, and preſent eſtabliſhment thereof, do not ſuffer or ſuſtain any prejudice which they can prevent, as they will be anſwerable: Provided always, that this general clauſe be not extended to particular affairs or proceſſes before Synods or Preſbyteries, that are not of univerſal concern to, or influence upon the whole Church. And it is hereby appointed, that no private proceſſes be determined, except at the four ſtated diets; and what ſhall be determined at one diet of the Commiſſion, with relation to private cauſes, ſhall be unalterable by any other diet thereof, and ſhall ſtand and continue in force till diſapproved of by the General Aſſembly. And the Aſſembly renews the inſtructions given by the General Aſſembly in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventeen to their Commiſſion, and appoints the ſame to ſtand in full force as inſtructions to the Commiſſioners before named, and to be obſerved by them in all points, as if the ſame were ſpecially here inſerted; and that they enquire into the publiſhing and ſpreading of books and pamphlets, tending towards the promoting

promoting of opinions of whatever kind, inconſiſtent with our *Confeſſion of Faith*; and that the recommenders of ſuch books or pamphlets, or the errors therein contained, whether by word, writ, or print, be called before the ſaid Commiſſion, to anſwer for the ſame. And further, the ſaid Commiſſion is hereby empowered to receive any references and appeals that ſhall be made to them from Synods, in matters of doctrine, and ripen ſuch affairs for the next General Aſſembly; and to contribute what they can to the ſuppreſſing of vice and immorality, and give all needful advice and aſſiſtance to Synods and Preſbyteries, upon application to them for that end: Likewiſe, to take care that the impreſſions of the *Holy Scriptures*, the *Confeſſion of Faith*, and *Catechiſms*, and ſuch books as are authoriſed by this Church, relating to the doctrine, worſhip, diſcipline and government thereof, be correct; and give directions about printing the ſame. And the Commiſſioners are appointed and empowered to keep a correſpondence with the Committee for Reformation of the Highlands and Iſlands, for ſuppreſſing popery and ſuperſtition, and for promoting the knowledge of true religion, and carrying on a reformation in theſe parts, and give aſſiſtance and concurrence therein; and, if need be, to apply to the Government for a proper remedy and ſpeedy redreſs. And the ſaid Commiſſioners are hereby ſtrictly prohibited and diſcharged to meddle in any other matters than what are committed and referred to them as above mentioned: And, in all their actings, they are to proceed according to the acts and conſtitution of this Church, and to do nothing contrary thereto, or to the prejudice of the ſame; declaring, that, in and for all their actings, they ſhall be accountable to, and cenſurable by the next General Aſſembly, as they ſhall ſee cauſe. And the General Aſſembly appoints the ſaid Commiſſioners particularly to obſerve the acts of the General Aſſemblies one thouſand ſeven hundred and twelve, and one thouſand ſeven hundred and nineteen, reſpecting the application of the public money; which two acts are printed among the Acts of Aſſembly one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-one. And this Commiſſion is to continue and endure until another Commiſſion be appointed; and members are required to attend the diets of the ſaid Commiſſion; and abſents therefrom are ordered to be noticed, according to the ſeventeenth act of the General Aſſembly held in the year one thouſand ſeven hun-

dred and ſix. And for the better ſecuring of a quorum, and attendance of members on the Commiſſion, the General Aſſembly prohibits the Preſhytery of Edinburgh, or any other Preſbytery within twelve miles thereof, to meet on any of the days or weeks appointed for the meeting of this Commiſſion; and ſuch of the members of theſe Preſbyteries as are on the Commiſſion, are required, all of them to give attendance on the diets thereof; and the Preſbyteries at a greater diſtance, who have four or more members on the Commiſſion, are to take care, that at leaſt two of them attend each diet of the ſame: And the General Aſſembly appoint their Commiſſion, at their firſt meeting, to diſcuſs as many of the cauſes and queſtions relative to the ſettlement of vacant churches, which are or ſhall be referred to them by the Aſſembly, as they can overtake. And it is further provided, that when any Preſbytery or Synod of this Church ſhall decline to comply with the ſentence of the Commiſſion, or to give the ſame a full execution, in that caſe the Commiſſion is hereby prohibited to execute the ſame, by appointing any ſuch correſponding meeting, as has been ſome time the practice, but ſhall allow the ſame to lie over to the enſuing Aſſembly, to which ſuch Preſbyteries or Synods ſhall be anſwerable for ſuch their conduct, and are hereby appointed to ſend up with their Commiſſioners their reaſons for the ſame. And that in paſſing their ſentences, and in ordering the execution of the ſame, they ſtrictly obſerve the 12th act of the Aſſembly one thouſand ſeven hundred and thirty-ſix.

V.

V.

COMMISSION to ſome Miniſters and Ruling Elders, for the Reformation of the Highlands and Iſlands of Scotland, and for managing his Majeſty's Royal Bounty for that end.

Edinburgh, May 29. 1790, *Seſſ.* 9.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY did, and hereby do nominate and appoint the Reverend Dr JOHN WALKER, *Regius* Profeſſor of Natural Hiſtory in the Univerſity of Edinburgh, their Moderator, all the miniſters who are members of the Preſbytery of Edinburgh, Mr William Auld at Mauchlin, Dr Andrew Mitchell at Monkton, Dr James Woodrow at Stevenſton, Dr John Snodgraſs at Paiſley, Mr John Monteith *junior* at Neilſton, Mr Henry Stevenſon at Blantyre, Mr Robert Inglis at Carmichael, Mr Alexander Dobie at Eagleſham, Mr William Dun at Kirkintilloch, Mr James Oliphant at Dumbarton, Mr Charles Stewart at Strathchur, Dr John Smith at Campbelton, Mr Donald MacNicol at Liſmore, Mr Robert Williamſon at Lethendy, Mr William Chalmers at Auchtergaven, Mr David Bannerman at St Martins, Mr David Beatſon at Dumbarney, Mr James Sommerville at Stirling, Mr John Wright at Trinity Gaſk, Mr Thomas Bartie at Monzie, Mr John Kinroſs at Lecropt, Mr Alexander Thomſon at Carnock, Mr George Shaw at Abbotſhall, Dr Michael Greenlaw at Creich, Mr Samuel Martin at Monymail, Dr Robert Dalglieſh at Ferry-port-on-Craigs, Dr John Adamſon at St Andrews, Dr George Hill at St Andrews, Mr James Ogilvie at Eaſſie, Mr Thomas Wright at Reſcobie, Mr William Maule at Monikie, Mr Robert Trail at Panbride, Mr John Waugh at Menmuir, Mr Robert Foot at Fettercairn, Mr George Abercrombie at Aberdeen, Dr John Brown at Newhills, Mr Charles MacHardie at Crathie, Mr Joſeph Smith at Birſe, Mr Thomas Birnie at Alford, Mr James Douglas at Premnay, Mr James Johnſton at Crimond, Mr William

liam Stuart at Turriff, Mr James Lawtie at Fordyce, Mr John Cooper at Glaſs, Mr Francis Grant at Knockando, Mr Patrick Grant at Duthill, Mr William Gordon at Urquhart, Mr John Hoyes at Kinloſs, Mr Alexander Grant at Calder, Mr George Watſon at Inverneſs, Mr Robert Arthur at Kirkmichael, Mr Andrew Gally at Kincardine, Mr Donald MacKenzie at Fodertie, Mr Malcolm Macleod at Snizort, Mr William MacKenzie at Aſſint, Mr William MacKenzie at Tong, Mr William Anderſon at Evie, Mr James Bremner at Walls, Mr William Clouſton at Croſs, Mr William Mitchell at Tingwall, Mr John Ritchie at Abercorn, Mr Thomas Mitchell at Lamington, Mr William Welch at Drummelzier, Dr Alexander Carlyle at Invereſk, Mr James Innes at Yeſter, Mr John Martin at Spott, Mr Alexander Girvan at Langton, Mr David Young at Foulden, Mr Cornelius Lundie at Kelſo, Dr Thomas Sommerville at Jedburgh, Mr Alexander Duncan at Gordon, Dr Robert Cramond at Yarrow, Mr John Ruſſell at Cannoby, Mr Thomas Henderſon at Dryſdale, Mr John Robertſon at Kirkconnel, Dr Bryce Johnſton at Holywood, Mr John Gilleſpie at Kells, Mr Robert Steven at Mochrum, Mr Robert Callander at Kirkmaiden, *Miniſters;* George Ferguſſon, Eſq; advocate, Thomas Muir, Eſq; advocate, Archibald Campbell, Eſq; advocate, the Lord Preſident, John Lamont of Lamont, Eſq; Archibald MacDonald of Sanda, Eſq; William Campbell of Fairfield, Eſq; David Steuart, Eſq; John Haggart, Eſq; Mr Alexander Bonar, banker, the Dean of Faculty, Colonel Monypenny, Dr Andrew Duncan, George Robertſon-Scott, Eſq; Mr Thomas Miln, merchant in Canongate, Adam Gillies, Eſq; Robert Cullen, Eſq; the Procurator, William MacDonald, Eſq; James Gordon, Eſq; younger of Craig, George Buchan-Hepburn, Eſq; Lord Henderland, Mr John Taylor, clerk to the Signet, Mr Alexander Forbes, writer, Mr George Andrew, writer, Baron Gordon, Mr Iſaac Grant, Dr Gregory Grant, Mr Thomas Gordon, writer, William Scott, Eſq; banker, Mr William Dunbar, writer, Robert MacIntoſh, Eſq; advocate, Simon Fraſer, Eſq; Convener John Lindſay, Lord Ankerville, Mr Kenneth MacKenzie *junior*, writer, Mr William MacLean, merchant, Mr James Horn, writer, Mr Alexander Youngſon, writer, Mr John Clerk, advocate, Mr John Wilde, advocate, Profeſſor Andrew Dalzel, Bailie William Galloway, Bailie Daniel Miller, the Lord Provoſt of Edinburgh, Convener Hart, Mr John Gloag, merchant,

merchant, the Solicitor-General, James Montgomery, Eſq; advocate, Andrew Hamilton, Eſq; of Spittlehaugh, the Lord Advocate, the Marquis of Tweeddale, Matthew Sandilands, Eſq; Bailie James Dickſon, the Earl of Lauderdale, Mr James Saunders, writer, Mr Francis Armſtrong, merchant, Mr Archibald Douglas, writer, Mr John Peat, writer, Alexander Fergusſon, Eſq; George Cranſton, Eſq; John Buſhby, Eſq; the Honourable Patrick Maitland, Mr Thomas Smith, writer, Mr Macleod of Cadboll, *Ruling Elders;* TO BE A COMMITTEE of this Aſſembly, for the reformation of the Highlands and Iſlands of Scotland, for promoting the knowledge of true religion, ſuppreſſing Popery and profaneneſs, and for managing the Royal Bounty for theſe ends, according to, and in terms of His Majeſty's grant to this Aſſembly. In proſecution of which purpoſes, the Committee are to appoint Preachers and Catechiſts, to go to ſuch places as they ſhall find, upon due information, to be the moſt proper, according to His Majeſty's deſign, expreſſed in His warrant; and, in ſo doing, that they have particular regard to ſuch pariſhes, in South Uiſt, Small Iſles, Glenco, Harris, the countries of Moidart, Glengary, and Lochaber, and the other pariſhes of the Synods of Glenelg and Argyle, which the Committee ſhall find, by reaſon of the vaſt extent, by the prevalency of Popery and ignorance, and other unhappy circumſtances, to be in the greateſt diſtreſs: And they ſhall take care, that the perſons they employ be certified, and found, upon due trial, to be properly qualified for theſe reſpective offices, of good abilities for the ſame, of a pious life and converſation; prudent, of undoubted loyalty to His Majeſty, and of competent ſkill in the principles of Divinity, and particularly in Popiſh controverſies: Such Preachers and Catechiſts being hereby appointed to be ſubject to, and under the inſpection of the Preſbyteries of the bounds to which they are ſent, who are to take care that the orders of the Committee be duly obſerved by them. And the Preachers are alſo appointed to catechiſe, and both they and the Catechiſts to inſtruct the people from houſe to houſe, and to viſit the ſick; and, in all their labour among the people, to be careful to teach them the principles and duties of the true Chriſtian Proteſtant religion, and the obligations they are under to duty and loyalty to our Sovereign King George, and obedience to the laws: And the Committee are empowered to give them

ſuch inſtructions, as to their work and behaviour, as they ſhall judge meet; which inſtructions the Preachers and Catechiſts are hereby ordered to obey. The General Aſſembly do further appoint the ſaid Committee, to have a particular regard in their proceedings, to the regulations agreed upon by the Committee of the Aſſembly for managing the Royal Bounty, on the 30th of September 1730, approven by frequent Aſſemblies: And to take care that Preſbyteries, and others concerned, obſerve the ſame, which they are hereby ordered to do: Particularly, the Aſſembly ordains the ſeveral Preſbyteries to inſert in their regiſters, the Committee's appointments of the deſignations, ſalaries, and ſtations of the ſeveral miſſionaries, and to have an exact regard thereto, in all the letters they ſhall write about the ſaid miſſionaries, and in giving of certificates to them; and to direct all their letters, concerning miſſionaries in their bounds, only to the Moderator of the Committee; which letters ſhall be ſigned, at the appointment of the Preſbytery, by the Moderator or Clerk thereof: And the Aſſembly does diſcharge any payment to be made of the ſalaries of the miſſionaries, except upon receipts from the miſſionaries themſelves, and upon certificates from the Preſbyteries, bearing, That they have ſerved for the time mentioned in the receipts; and that every Catechiſt who receives a ſalary from the Royal Bounty, on condition that the pariſhioners or gentlemen of the diſtrict ſhall pay a certain ſum in aid of ſuch ſalary, ſhall inſert, in the body of his receipt to the Caſhier, a declaration that he has received the particular ſum ſpecified; and that the atteſtation of the Preſbytery ſhall in like manner bear, that the Catechiſt has received the ſtipulated ſum which the Committee make the condition of his appointment; it being underſtood by this reſolution, that the ſeveral ſtations, with regard to which ſuch conditions were originally made by the Committee, when no ſuch declaration of the Catechiſt, or atteſtation of the Preſbytery, as is now propoſed, is received by the Caſhier, ſhall be afterwards ſuppreſſed by the Committee, though the Catechiſt ſhall, notwithſtanding, receive the ſalary for the time he is certified to have performed his duty. That a journal of the itinerant's labours in the miniſtry, of the miſſion committed to him, be written on the back of the Preſbytery's certificate, and ſigned by him, as the ground on which the Preſbytery have granted him ſaid certificate. The General Aſſembly do alſo empower the

ſaid

ſaid Committee to apply, for the purpoſes above mentioned, what may remain of the laſt year's Royal Bounty not diſpoſed of, by reaſon of any of the miſſionaries not fulfilling the appointments laid upon them; and that they are to keep a regiſter of their proceedings, and likewiſe diſtinct books of accounts, how the foreſaid money is beſtowed, which ſhall be patent to any concerned, who pleaſe to inſpect the ſame. Of the perſons above named, as members of this Committee, five are declared to be a quorum, whereof three are to be miniſters. But it is hereby appointed, That at the quarterly meeting of the Committee, in which the ſcheme or eſtabliſhment of miſſionaries for the enſuing year is to be approved and determined, not leſs than fourteen ſhall be the quorum, whereof nine ſhall be miniſters; and the ſaid Committee are appointed to have their firſt general meeting at Edinburgh, the firſt lawful day after the adjournment of the firſt of the ſtated diets of the Commiſſion of the General Aſſembly; their ſecond meeting, (which is for fixing the annual ſcheme) upon the ſecond Thurſday of July, with power to thoſe members who ſhall then be preſent, to adjourn; and their other two general meetings the firſt lawful days after the ſtated meetings of the Commiſſion of the General Aſſembly, in November and March, within the Aſſembly ayle, at ten of the clock in the forenoon, except that day ſhall fall to be Saturday, and then the meeting ſhall be upon Monday next thereafter, at the ſaid hour; with power to the ſaid Committee to adjourn themſelves to ſuch times and places as they ſhall find moſt needful and convenient: And they are to keep a correſpondence with the Commiſſion of the General Aſſembly, and the Society for propagating Chriſtian Knowledge, and their Committee of Directors, and to take their advice and aſſiſtance; and alſo to correſpond with the Synods and Preſbyteries concerned. They are likewiſe inſtructed and empowered, as they ſhall ſee cauſe, to apply to the Government, or any Magiſtrate, for aſſiſtance and ſupport in carrying on the deſign of the Commiſſion now given to them. And the General Aſſembly do appoint Mr William Robertſon advocate, Procurator for the Church, and Receiver of the foreſaid Royal Bounty, to pay out the ſame, as he ſhall be directed and ordered by the foreſaid Committee, and according to their rules. And the ſaid Committee are appointed to examine the accounts of the diſtribution of

the

the Royal Bounty, and lay the ſame before the Lords Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Treaſury, or the Barons of His Majeſty's Court of Exchequer, and to report their diligence to the General Aſſembly, to whom they are to be accountable. And it is agreed, That no perſon once employed and inſert in the ſcheme, ſhall be ſtruck out thereof for that year, but by the quorum of at leaſt fourteen, whereof nine to be miniſters; and in caſe any complaint ſhall be made againſt any of them on the ſcheme, it ſhall not be determined the firſt ordinary meeting that the ſame is offered, but it ſhall lie on the table till another meeting; and in the mean time the perſon complained of, and the Preſbytery of the bounds wherein he officiates, ſhall be acquainted of ſuch complaint, and thoſe concerned be required to ſend to the ſaid Committee a juſt account of the matter, againſt the next meeting. And it is farther appointed, That after the yearly ſcheme of miſſionaries on the Royal Bounty is ſettled in manner above directed, and notice thereof given by letters to the Preſbyteries concerned, ſuch Preſbyteries ſhall ſend up to the ſaid Committee their anſwer to theſe letters, at fartheſt with their Commiſſioners to the General Aſſembly, if the ſame be not done ſooner; and that the Committee, at their firſt meeting after the General Aſſembly, ſhall endeavour to complete the next year's ſcheme themſelves; and if they cannot complete it, they ſhall name a Sub-committee of their number for that purpoſe, who are to lay their draught thereof before a ſubſequent meeting, which is appointed to meet as ſoon after the riſing of the Aſſembly as poſſible. And empowered the Committee, at their firſt meeting, to reject any petition for a new ſtation, in caſe they ſhall find ſufficient objections againſt it; and that the ſaid Committee, in making up the ſcheme of miſſionaries, &c. do not exceed the ſum in the grant.

VI.

VI.

Overture reſpecting the Ordination of Elders, re-tranſmitted.

Edinburgh, May 31. 1784.

WHEREAS great irregularities have crept into the Church, with reſpect to the ordination of Elders, the General Aſſembly overtures, That it be enacted, That no Miniſter ſhould ſet apart any perſon to the office of Elder in his congregation, who has not a fixed reſidence in the pariſh, or who is not an heritor in the pariſh; it being the true meaning and intent of this Overture, to prevent Elders being ordained in congregations who are in nowiſe connected with them: And it being underſtood, that any city or town, where there are more congregations than one, ſhall be held as one pariſh, ſo far as reſpects the purpoſe of this Overture.

VII.

Act appointing the Diet of the next General Aſſembly.

Edinburgh, May 31. 1790. *Seſſ. ult.*

THE next GENERAL ASSEMBLY of this National Church is appointed to be held within the New Church Ayle of Edinburgh, on Thurſday the 19th day of May, 1791.

Collected and extracted from the Records of the General Aſſembly, by

ANDREW DALZEL, *Cl. Eccl. Scot.*

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PRO-

PROPOSALS for the Melioration of Glebes, ſubmitted by the General Aſſembly to the Conſideration of the Church.

[*See Abridgment, May* 28. 1790. *Seſſ.* 8.]

THAT every Miniſter of the Church of Scotland, who ſhall hereafter be admitted, and come to the enjoyment of the full benefice of a pariſh, ſhall be liable to pay, in the manner after mentioned, to his laſt predeceſſor, or his heirs, executors, or aſſignees, for all the fences, dikes, ditches, or hedges, incloſing and ſubdividing his glebe; provided always, that ſuch fences, &c. be done according to a plan ſeen and approved by the Preſbytery in whoſe bounds the glebe lies, and inſerted in a ſeparate regiſter kept by them for that purpoſe, before ſuch fences, &c. were begun.

2. That within one calendar month after a ſucceſſor ſhall be admitted and come to the enjoyment of the full benefice of a pariſh, all the fences, dikes, ditches, and hedges, incloſing and ſubdividing a glebe, ſhall be valued according to their worth at that time, by four competent and ſworn compriſers; two of whom to be choſen by the ſucceſſor, and two of them by the laſt incumbent, or his heirs, &c.; the ſaid four compriſers having power to chuſe an overſman, if need be, and their ſentence ſhall be final.

3. That the whole ſum at which the fences, &c. incloſing and ſubdividing a glebe, may be valued, ſhall be paid by the ſucceſſor, or his heirs, &c. to the laſt incumbent, or his heirs, &c. in ſeven equal parts or inſtalments; *i. e.* the firſt ſeventh part of ſaid ſum ſhall be paid as above, by the ſucceſſor, &c. at the firſt term of Whitſunday that ſhall happen after he hath been entitled to his ſecond year's ſtipend.

4. That no ſucceſſor, or his heirs, &c. ſhall be liable to pay to his predeceſſor, or his heirs, &c. above the ſum of fifty pounds Sterling, for all the fences, &c. incloſing and ſubdividing his glebe.

5. If any Miniſter of the Church of Scotland ſhall die, or be tranſlated to another pariſh, after he ſhall have begun, and before he ſhall have finiſhed the incloſures and ſubdiviſions of his glebe; in either of theſe caſes, the ſaid Miniſter, or his heirs, &c. ſhall be entitled to payment in manner above mentioned, according to a compriſement made as above, from his ſucceſſor, &c. for whatever fences, dikes, ditches, or hedges, he ſhall have made on his glebe during his incumbency, at the ſight of the Preſbytery, in the manner above mentioned.

6. That

6. That the fences, &c. by which the glebe is incloſed and ſubdivided, ſhall be maintained during a vacancy, from the profits of the glebe. Alſo, That whoever poſſeſſes the glebe during a vacancy, ſhall pay to the laſt incumbent, or his heirs, &c. one ſeventh part of the ſum at which the fences, &c. are valued at the laſt incumbent's death, and that annually during their poſſeſſion, at firſt Martinmas after ſeparation of the crop from the ground.

7. That if the foregoing propoſitions are approved by the majority of the Preſbyteries of this Church, an application be made to Parliament for enacting the ſame into a law; and that the expence of carrying the Bill through both Houſes of Parliament, be raiſed by a contribution of ſix ſhillings from each Miniſter of this Church, to be collected by the Moderator of each Preſbytery or Synod, and remitted within a limited time, to the Procurator of the Church, or ſome Banker in Edinburgh.

ABRIDGMENT

OF THE

ACTINGS and PROCEEDINGS of the GENERAL ASSEMBLY of the CHURCH of SCOTLAND, held in the year 1790, which are not printed at full length.

Thurſday, May 20. 1790. *Seſſ.* 1*ſt.*

AFTER Sermon by the Reverend Dr GEORGE HILL, Profeſſor of Divinity in the Univerſity of St Andrews, Moderator of the laſt General Aſſembly, the Miniſters and Ruling Elders convened in the Aſſembly-houſe in the uſual manner: And, after prayer by the ſaid Dr George Hill, the Reverend Dr JOHN WALKER, Miniſter of Collington, and *Regius* Profeſſor of Natural Hiſtory in the Univerſity of Edinburgh, being unanimouſly choſen Moderator, he, at the Aſſembly's deſire, took the chair.

The KING's Commiſſion to the Right Honourable DAVID Earl of LEVEN, to repreſent his Majeſty's Royal Perſon, read, and ordered to be recorded. See Printed Acts, No. I.

The King's moſt gracious Letter to this Aſſembly, read, and ordered to be recorded. and No. II.

The Commiſſioner's ſpeech at the opening of the Aſſembly, and the Moderator's ſpeech in return thereto.

A Committee named for anſwering the King's moſt gracious Letter.

A Committee named for reviſing the Commiſſions to the Members of this Aſſembly, cenſuring abſents from the diets thereof, naming Miniſters to preach before his Grace the King's Commiſſioner, and receiving Liſts of Probationers in the ſeveral Preſbyteries, in order to their being recorded.

A Committee for overtures named.

A Committee for bills, references, and appeals named.

Adjournment.

Friday, May 21. 1790. *Seſſ.* 2*d.*

Sederunt.

A diet ſpent in Prayer.

New Commiſſions produced.

Act VII. of the Aſſembly 1718, for the better diſpatch of the buſineſs of the Aſſembly, read, and the obſervation thereof enjoined.

Miniſters named to preach before his Grace the King's Commiſſioner.

The Committees for overtures and bills appointed to meet this evening at 7 o'clock, in the uſual places.

The Committees for drawing up an anſwer to His Majeſty's Letter, and for reviſing Commiſſions, alſo to meet this evening.
Adjournment.

Saturday, May 22. 1790. *Seſſ.* 3*d.*

Sederunt.

New Commiſſions produced.

See Printed Acts, No. III. The draught of an anſwer to the King's moſt gracious Letter to this Aſſembly, being brought in, and approved, his Grace the Commiſſioner, at the Aſſembly's requeſt, undertook to tranſmit the ſame to his Majeſty.

The Report of the Committee for overtures given in and read.

The Aſſembly proceeded to conſider the objection to the Commiſſion from the Preſbytery of Mull, *viz.* "That it is dated "on the 4th of May, which is a ſimilar objection to that "made to their Commiſſion to laſt Aſſembly, and which ob- "jection was then Suſtained, and the Commiſſion Rejected, "as appears from the minutes of laſt Aſſembly." After reaſoning at great length, a motion was made and ſeconded, "That the vote be put, *Suſtain* the Commiſſion from the "Preſbytery of Mull, or *Reject* it:"—Which motion was agreed to; and the roll being called, and votes marked, it carried *Reject*:—Therefore the Aſſembly ſuſtained the objection to the Commiſſion from the Preſbytery of Mull, rejected the Commiſſion, and ordained the Commiſſioners names to be expunged from the roll.

The Aſſembly delayed the further conſideration of the report of the Committee for overtures till Monday.

The roll of cauſes tranſmitted by the Committee for bills, called for, produced, and read.

The Aſſembly agreed to take up the cauſe reſpecting the ſettlement of the pariſh of Renfrew on Monday next.

A Committee named to reviſe the regiſter of the actings and proceedings of the Commiſſion of the laſt General Aſſembly.

A Committee named to reviſe the actings and proceedings of the Committee appointed by laſt Aſſembly, for managing the Royal Bounty for reformation of the Highlands and Iſlands.

A Committee named to audit and reviſe the accounts of the Procurator and Agent for the Church, and other public accounts, conſider the ſtate of the Church's public money, and prepare overtures about the ſame.

The Committee for overtures appointed to meet this evening, and empowered to receive from the ſeveral Members any inſtructions given to them by the reſpective Synods or Preſbyteries, claſs the matters therein contained, and prepare overtures thereon to the Aſſembly; and to receive and conſider any accounts that ſhall be given them of the ſtate of the Church in the North Highlands, particularly concerning the growth of Popery and Superſtition, and prepare overtures for preventing and ſuppreſſing thereof.

The Committee for bills appointed to meet this evening.

Adjournment.

Monday,

Monday, May 24. 1790. *Seſſ.* 4.

Sederunt.

New Commiſſions produced.

Report of the Committee for overtures called for, given in, and read.

The Aſſembly firſt proceeded to conſider the remaining part of the report of the Committee for overtures, which had been delayed ſince Saturday laſt.

It was objected to the Commiſſion from the burgh of Cullen, "That the word *reſided* is omitted in the Commiſſion, and both "the atteſtations."—The Aſſembly ſuſtained the objection, rejected the Commiſſion, and ordained the Commiſſioner's name to be expunged from the roll.

It was objected to the Commiſſion from the burgh of Wigton, "That inſtead of *the Magiſtrates*, there appear the words, *the* "*Provoſt and one of the Bailies*."—The Aſſembly repelled the objection, and ſuſtained the Commiſſion.

It was objected to the Commiſſion from the Preſbytery of Dumfries, "That in the ſubſtitution, the words *and appoint* are "interlined; and a Member alſo who had reſigned, and "whoſe reſignation had been accepted, is again nominated, "and appointed in the ſubſtitution."—The Aſſembly repelled the objection, and ſuſtained the Commiſſion.

It was objected to the Commiſſion from the Preſbytery of Caithneſs, "That it is dated on the 4th of May, which is within the "forty days." The Committee reported, "They are there-"fore of opinion it ſhould be rejected."—The Aſſembly approved of the opinion of the Committee, rejected the Commiſſion, and ordained the Commiſſioners names to be expunged from the roll.

The Aſſembly then proceeded to conſider the report of the Committee for overtures, which was this day tranſmitted.

It was objected to the Commiſſion from the burgh of Renfrew, "That it has the following marginal note, *or is ready to* "*ſign*."—The Aſſembly repelled the objection, and ſuſtained the Commiſſion.

A Committee appointed to conſider the overtures from the Synods of Murray and Roſs, and inſtructions from the Preſbytery of North Iſles, reſpecting the improvement of Miniſters glebes, and to bring in their report to the Aſſembly on Friday next.

It was agreed to conſider, on Friday next, the overture from the Synod of Angus and Mearns, reſpecting the augmentation of Miniſters ſtipends.

It was agreed to conſider, on Thurſday next, the overture from the Preſbytery of Jedburgh reſpecting the Teſt Act.

The roll of cauſes tranſmitted by the Committee for bills, called for, produced, and read.

The Aſſembly agreed to conſider to-morrow, a petition of the Moderator and remanent Members of the Preſbytery of Fordyce, for advice reſpecting an alleged ſimoniacal paction: And, after that, the petition of Mr James Lawſon: To take up the cauſe reſpecting the ſettlement of Newlands on Wedneſday; and the cauſe of Greenock immediately after.

Synod-

Synod-books called for.

Committees appointed to reviſe the Synod-books of Perth and Stirling, and of Merſe and Teviotdale.

None of the other Synod-books being brought up, appointed that they be brought up to next Aſſembly.

It was moved, "That whereas the Acts of Aſſembly relative to "the election and admiſſion of Members of Aſſembly are de- "tached from one another, and doubts have ariſen concern- "ing the interpretation of ſome of theſe Acts, a Committee "be appointed to collate the ſeveral Acts of former Aſſem- "blies on this ſubject, and from them to prepare a ſet of re- "gulations, to be ſubmitted to the conſideration of the Aſ- "ſembly."—Which motion the Aſſembly agreed to, and appointed a Committee accordingly to meet on Wedneſday at ten o'clock, with power to adjourn, and to give in their report to the Aſſembly on Friday, and appointed Dr Adamſon convener.

Sir Henry Moncreiff gave in and read the report of the Committee appointed by laſt Aſſembly, for conſidering the augmentation of Miniſters ſtipends.—The Aſſembly agreed to conſider this report on Friday next, and, in the mean time, ordered the clerks to cauſe a ſufficient number of copies thereof to be printed and diſtributed amongſt the Members of Aſſembly, as ſoon as poſſible.

A petition for John Davidſon, Eſq; clerk to the Signet, in behalf of the Crown, patron of the pariſh of Renfrew, and of the Rev. Mr Thomas Burns, Miniſter of Inchinnan, the Crown's preſentee to the ſaid pariſh of Renfrew, appealing from a ſentence of the Synod of Glaſgow and Ayr, referring the cauſe reſpecting the ſettlement of the pariſh of Renfrew *ſimpliciter* to the Aſſembly, read.—Thereafter, the counſel for the patron and preſentee having withdrawn the appeal, the Aſſembly proceeded to take up the cauſe on the reference from the Synod; and the ſame being heard, after long reaſoning, the following motion was made and ſeconded: "The General Aſ- "ſembly find, That the Preſbytery of Paiſley ought to have "ſuſtained the call to Mr Thomas Burns, Miniſter of Inchin- "nan, to be Miniſter of Renfrew, together with the ſubſe- "quent deeds of concurrence; and they do therefore hereby "ſuſtain the ſaid call.—And the General Aſſembly farther find, "That the Preſbytery, by referring the cauſe *ſimpliciter* to "the Synod, inſtead of giving judgment upon the call, did "thereby render a delay in the ſaid ſettlement unavoidable, "although there were no circumſtances indicating that this "ſettlement would have been inconſiſtent with the good of "the Church: Therefore the General Aſſembly did, and "hereby do ordain the Preſbytery to meet at Paiſley, upon "the 16th day of June next, to receive this ſentence, and to "proceed without delay, according to the rules of the Church, "to take the proper ſteps for looſing Mr Burns from the "charge of Inchinnan, and admitting him Miniſter of Ren- "frew."—And another motion was made and ſeconded, "That

"in

" in reſpect there appear to be ſeveral papers of concurrence, " which were not before the inferior courts, and are not " therefore competently before the Aſſembly, the cauſe ſhall " be remitted to the Preſbytery of Paiſley, with inſtructions " to them to receive whatever papers of concurrence ſhall be " brought before them, and thereafter give judgment on the " merits of the call; and, that there may be no unneceſſary " delay in the buſineſs, in caſe any appeal ſhall be taken from " their judgment thereon, to proceed, notwithſtanding ſuch " appeal, to take the ſteps required by the laws of the Church, " in order to enable them to give judgment on the expedien- " cy of tranſlating the preſentee from the pariſh of Inchinnan " to the pariſh of Renfrew, and pronounce ſuch judgment " without delay, that the whole cauſe may be ripe for a final " deciſion, when the matter ſhall be brought before the Supe- " rior Court." This ſtate of the vote was then agreed to, *Suſtain* or *Remit*: It being underſtood, that if it carried *Suſtain*, the firſt motion ſhould be adopted, and if it carried *Remit*, the ſecond motion; and the roll being called, and votes marked, it carried *Suſtain*:—Therefore the Aſſembly adopted the firſt motion as their judgment. Againſt which ſentence a Member diſſented.

The Committees for overtures and bills, appointed to meet to-morrow at eleven o'clock, in their uſual places.

Adjournment.

Tueſday, May 25. 1790. *Seſſ.* 5.

Sederunt.

A new Commiſſion produced, read, and ſuſtained.

Report of the Committee for overtures called for, given in, and read.

Report of the Committee for bills, called for, given in, and read.

The Committees for reviſing the Commiſſion record, and Royal Bounty record, appointed to meet to-morrow morning.

A petition of the Moderator and remanent members of the Preſbytery of Fordyce, for advice reſpecting an alleged ſimoniacal paction, with the Acts of Aſſembly againſt ſuch practices, read. The Aſſembly, unanimouſly, highly approved of the conduct of the Preſbytery of Fordyce, and Synod of Aberdeen; inſtructed the Procurator for the Church to attend to the progreſs of the proceſs of reduction before the civil court, brought by Colonel Hay, to concur with the purſuer, and to report the ſtate of the proceſs to the next General Aſſembly: And they inſtructed the Preſbytery of Fordyce to delay taking any ſteps in the ſettlement of Mr Hay, till they receive directions from the Aſſembly.

A petition for Mr James Lawſon preacher, craving the Aſſembly's permiſſion to preach as a Probationer in the Churches of the Eſtabliſhment in Scotland, being a licenciate of the Scots Preſbytery in London, read; and Mr Lawſon himſelf being heard in ſupport thereof, the Aſſembly unanimouſly diſ-

miſſed the petition, as inconſiſtent with the 9th Act of Aſſembly 1779, reſpecting perſons going without the bounds of this Church to be licenſed and ordained.

The Preſbytery of Aberbrothock, in terms of the minute of laſt Aſſembly, requiring, that they ſiſt themſelves at the bar of this Aſſembly, to anſwer for their proceeding in the ſettlement of Mr George Gleig, to be miniſter of Aberbrothock, being accordingly called to the bar, there appeared Mr Robert Traill at Panbride, Mr Alexander Chaplin at Kinnell, and Mr Alexander Girvan, formerly at Lunan.—The record of the Preſbytery reſpecting the ſaid ſettlement was then called for, and read; and the Preſbytery being heard in their own defence, were removed.—After reaſoning, the Aſſembly unanimouſly found, "That the proceedings of the Preſbytery of "Aberbrothock, in the ſettlement and ordination of Mr George "Gleig, were highly irregular and incompetent, in reſpect that "they proceeded to take the ſteps towards the ſaid ſettlement, "without having any call before them, and while their minutes "bear, that there was no call: That they afterwards pro"ceeded to the ſettlement of Mr Gleig in the face of an ap"peal regularly taken in the cauſe, againſt a ſentence of the "Synod of Angus and Mearns to the laſt General Aſſembly; "and that it does not appear from their record, that, at the "time of the ſaid ordination, they required Mr Gleig to ſub"ſcribe the Confeſſion of Faith and *Formula*, as the laws "and practice of this Church require."—And therefore, the Aſſembly found, "That in theſe reſpects the conduct of "the Preſbytery was unjuſtifiable, and deſerves the cenſure "of the Aſſembly:"—The Aſſembly therefore did admoniſh and enjoin the Preſbytery of Aberbrothock to be careful to guard againſt ſuch irregularities for the future; and appointed the Clerk of Aſſembly to tranſmit to the clerk of the Preſbytery of Aberbrothock, an extract of this minute, which they ordained to be entered into the record of the ſaid Preſbytery at their firſt meeting.

The Committee on public accounts, and the Committee on the forms of Commiſſions, appointed to meet to-morrow morning.

Adjournment.

Wedneſday, May 26. 1790. *Seſſ.* 6.

Sederunt.

The public accounts produced, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Aſſembly proceeded to conſider the cauſe reſpecting the ſettlement of the pariſh of Newlands; and the Moderator, being a member of the Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale, from whence the ſaid cauſe is appealed, was allowed to retire, and Dr George Hill, by deſire of the Aſſembly, took the chair in his room, during the diſcuſſion of that cauſe.

Firſt, an appeal of William Paterſon, tenant in Damſide, and others, pariſhioners of Newlands, from a ſentence of the Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale, affirming a ſentence of the Preſbytery of Peebles, ſuſtaining a call to Mr Charles Findlater, Miniſter

Miniſter of Linton, to be Miniſter of Newlands, heard.—The Aſſembly, after reaſoning, without a vote, affirmed the ſentence of the Synod.—The Aſſembly were then proceeding to conſider another appeal by the ſaid William Paterſon and others, and a diſſent and complaint by ſeveral Members of Synod, againſt a ſecond ſentence of the Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale, reverſing a ſentence of the Preſbytery of Peebles, refuſing to tranſlate Mr Findlater from the pariſh of Linton to that of Newlands, when the counſel for the pariſhioners of Newlands, appellants, appeared at the bar, and ſaid, "That "as he underſtood there were objections to the admiſſibility "of the appellants, and the cauſe was in the hands of ſeve-"ral Members of the Synod, well able to defend it, he there-"fore withdrew the appeal."—The Aſſembly then took up the cauſe upon the diſſent and complaint: And parties being heard thereupon,—after long reaſoning, two ſeveral motions were made and ſeconded; and the Aſſembly agreed to put this ſtate of the vote, *Affirm* or *Reverſe;* and the roll being called, and votes marked, it carried *Affirm*: Therefore the Aſſembly affirmed the ſentence of the Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale, reverſing the ſentence of the Preſbytery of Peebles, and tranſlating Mr Findlater from the pariſh of Linton to that of Newlands; and enjoined the Preſbytery of Peebles at their firſt meeting, to order one of their number to preach at Newlands, and ſerve the edict, and to proceed to Mr Findlater's admiſſion to the pariſh of Newlands with all convenient ſpeed, according to the rules of the Church.

Mr John Millar, Advocate, appeared at the bar as counſel for Mr Allan M'Aulay, Miniſter of Greenock, and paſſed from the appeal taken by the ſaid Mr M'Aulay, againſt a ſentence of the Preſbytery of Paiſley, in which he was intereſted, becauſe he underſtood a well-founded objection would be made to the competency of the appeal, *viz.* That the reaſons of appeal were not lodged in due time with the clerk of the Preſbytery.

Adjournment.

Thurſday, May 27. 1790. *Seſſ.* 7.

Sederunt.

A new Commiſſion produced, read, and ſuſtained.

The Aſſembly, agreeable to a former reſolution, proceeded to conſider the overture from the Preſbytery of Jedburgh reſpecting the Teſt Act; and after reaſoning at very great length, the General Aſſembly unanimouſly agreed to adopt the following reſolutions on the ſubject of the ſaid overture, *viz.*

1*ſt*, That by a fundamental article in the Treaty of Union, the Proteſtant Religion and Preſbyterian Church-government are unalterably ſecured, as the only eſtabliſhed Religion and Church-government within this part of the united kingdom, and are inſeparable from the Conſtitution of the Britiſh Empire.

2*dly*, That by the 4th article of the Treaty of Union, it is provided, that there ſhall be an equal communication of all rights, privileges,

privileges, and advantages, which belong to the ſubjects either of Scotland or England, except where it is otherwiſe expreſsly agreed by the ſaid Treaty.

3*dly*, That by an Act of the Parliament paſſed the 25th year of the reign of Charles II. all perſons within the realm of England, Wales, or Berwick-upon-Tweed, holding any office, or offices, civil or military, or receiving any pay, ſalary, fee, or wages, or having command or place of truſt from or under His Majeſty, or by authority derived from him, are liable to ſevere penalties and forfeitures, unleſs they ſhall, within a limited time after receiving or being admitted into ſuch office, pay, ſalary, or wages, receive the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, in ſome public Church, upon ſome Lord's Day, according to the uſage of the Church of England; and that, in conſequence of the ſaid act, the Members of the Church of Scotland, holding Britiſh offices, civil or military, or receiving, as Britiſh ſubjects, any ſalary, fee, or wages, from or under His Majeſty, or by authority derived from him, have been ſuppoſed liable to the penalties and forfeitures contained in the ſaid ſtatute, unleſs they receive the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, according to the uſage of the Church of England.

4*thly*, That as this conſtruction of the act conſtitutes a manifeſt inequality between the Members of the two Eſtabliſhed Churches of Great Britain, is injurious to the morals of the people of Scotland, and has a tendency to weaken and undermine the Church of Scotland, it is the duty of the General Aſſembly, as the guardians of the religious eſtabliſhment of Scotland, to take every legal and conſtitutional mode, and to embrace the earlieſt proper opportunity to obtain effectual relief from the grievances ariſing from the ſaid act of the Parliament of England, commonly called the Teſt Act, as affecting the Members of this National Church.

It was then moved, and unanimouſly agreed to, "That a Committee of this Aſſembly ſhall now be appointed, with inſtructions to take the earlieſt proper opportunity to obtain redreſs of the grievances ſtated in the reſolutions which the Aſſembly have adopted, by every legal and conſtitutional mode which they ſhall judge to be moſt effectual." And a Committee was appointed accordingly, who are to report to next Aſſembly. Sir Henry Moncreiff appointed Convener.

Adjournment.

Friday, May 28. 1790. *Seſſ.* 8. *Sederunt.*

The Committees for reviſing the Commiſſion record, &c. appointed to meet, and report to-morrow.

The report of the Committee for claſſing returns to overtures given in and read.

A Committee appointed to take into conſideration the amendments made on the overture reſpecting the licenſing of Probationers, by ſuch Preſbyteries as have ſent returns to the ſame, and to adopt ſuch of them as may appear to them to be proper, and to lay their report before next Aſſembly. Dr Greive appointed Convener.

The overture reſpecting the ordination of Elders read, and ordered to be retranſmitted. See Printed Acts, No. VI.

The report of the Committee on the overtures reſpecting the improvement of glebes, given in and read.—The Aſſembly appointed their Principal Clerk to cauſe the report to be added at the end of the printed Acts of this Aſſembly, under the following title, *Propoſals for the Melioration of Glebes, ſubmitted by the General Aſſembly to the Conſideration of the Church.* See at the end of the Printed Acts.

Report of the Committee for drawing up regulations for forms of Commiſſions, ordered to be given in to-morrow.

A Committee appointed to reconſider the report and overtures reſpecting the augmentation of ſtipends, with inſtructions to digeſt and ripen a plan of general augmentation of the parochial ſtipends, and to uſe all prudent and proper means to learn the ſentiments of the Members of the Church, and of the landed proprietors in Scotland, and to report on this ſubject to next Aſſembly; and Sir Henry Moncreiff appointed Convener of the Committee.

The Committee on the Horſe Tax renewed, and appointed to report to next Aſſembly.

The Committee on new applications appointed to meet to-morrow morning.

Agreed to take up the cauſe anent the ſchoolmaſter of Langholm to-morrow.

Adjournment.

Saturday, May 29. 1790. *Seſſ.* 9.

Sederunt.

Act approving of the account of Mr William Robertſon, Advocate, Procurator for the Church, and exonering and diſcharging him and his cautioners of the ſum of L. 568 : 5 : 2 $\frac{4}{12}$ Sterling, diſburſed by him, and appointing that he take credit in his next account for the ſum of L. 68 : 5 : 2 $\frac{4}{12}$ Sterling, being the balance due to him.

Act approving of the account of Mr George Cairncroſs, Agent for the Church, and exonering and diſcharging him of the ſum of L. 254 : 11 : 8$\frac{1}{2}$ Sterling, diſburſed by him; and appointing that he take credit in his next account for the ſum of L. 10 : 16 : 8$\frac{1}{2}$ Sterling, being the balance due to him.

Act approving of the account of Dr William Gloag, Sub-clerk of Aſſembly, and exonering and diſcharging him of the ſum of L. 27 : 5 : 3 Sterling, diſburſed by him; and appointing that he take credit in his next account for the ſum of L. 8 : 10 : 3 Sterling, being the balance due to him.

Act approving of the account of Mr James Dickſon, printer for the Church, and ordering payment of the ſum of L. 11, 6s. Sterling, being the amount thereof.

Act approving of the account of Mr Elphingſton Balfour, ſtationer to the Church, and ordering payment of the ſum of L. 10 : 6 : 9½ Sterling, being the amount thereof.

Mr Dalzel repreſented, that he had found a note of money among the late Dr Dryſdale's papers, amounting to L. 5, 10s. which appears to be the money taken notice of Aſſembly 1783, *Seſſ. ult.* as a balance of the Window and Houſe Tax money in the ſaid Dr Dryſdale's hands: And he alſo repreſented, That Mr Cairncroſs had put into his hands an account due to the ſaid Mr Cairncroſs reſpecting this buſineſs, amounting to L. 3 : 18 : 2, and therefore wiſhed for the direction of the Aſſembly thereanent.—The Aſſembly authoriſed Mr Dalzel to pay Mr Cairncroſs the amount of the foreſaid account out of the above mentioned ſum, and to keep the balance in his own hands.

The Committee on the ſtate of the public funds appointed to meet again to-morrow.

The report of the viſitors of the Commiſſion record called for; the Commiſſion's conduct approved of; thanks given to the Moderator of the Commiſſion, and their book ordered to be atteſted.

See Printed Acts, No. IV.

The report of the Committee for naming the Members of THE COMMISSION of this ASSEMBLY, and preparing inſtructions to them, given in and approved of.—The Aſſembly added thereto Dr Thomas Hardy, one of the Miniſters of Edinburgh, in place of the Moderator, and alſo all thoſe whoſe Commiſſions had been rejected on account of informality.

The report of the viſitors of the Royal Bounty regiſter given in and read, the conduct of the Managers approved of; and their book ordered to be atteſted.

See Printed Acts, No. V.

A Committee named for managing the Royal Bounty this year, with a Commiſſion and inſtructions to them:—And the meeting for fixing the annual Scheme appointed to be upon the ſecond Thurſday of July, in place of the ſecond Thurſday of Auguſt, with power to ſuch Members of the Committee as ſhall be preſent, to adjourn.

Upon a motion, the Aſſembly recommended to the attention of the Committee on the Royal Bounty, at their firſt meeting, to give ſuch reward to Mr William Murray, *jun.* writer, as they ſhall judge proper, for his trouble in examining and ſorting the records and papers belonging to the Royal Bounty, at the time when the Committee were inveſtigating the whole buſineſs from the beginning.

The Synod-book of Merſe and Teviotdale ordered to be atteſted.

The Synod-book of Perth and Stirling ordered to be atteſted.

The Committee on the Enzie fund renewed, with the former powers.

The Procurator reported, That in obedience to the appointment of laſt General Aſſembly, application had been made to the Lord

Lord Clerk Regiſter, and the other Truſtees for the new General Regiſter-houſe, for a room in which the records of the Church might be kept, under the cuſtody of the Clerk thereof; and that the ſaid truſtees have given a room ſufficient for the purpoſe accordingly.—He therefore moved, That the thanks of the Venerable Aſſembly be given to Lord Frederick Campbell, Lord Clerk Regiſter, and to the other truſtees, for their polite and ready compliance with the requeſt of the Aſſembly; and that the Moderator be deſired to communicate the ſame to his Lordſhip:—Which motion the Aſſembly unanimouſly agreed to.—And upon a motion from a Member, the thanks of the Houſe were given from the chair to the Procurator, for his diligence and attention in this matter.—And the Aſſembly appointed the Procurator and the Principal Clerk as a Committee, to get the room in the Regiſter Office properly fitted up for receiving the books and papers of the Church, and authoriſed the Procurator to pay the neceſſary expence thereof, out of the public funds of the Church.

The report of the Committee reſpecting the election of Members of Aſſembly, given in and read, and ordered to lie on the table till Monday.

The report of the truſtees of the fund eſtabliſhed by act of Parliament, for a proviſion to Miniſters Widows, &c., containing an account of their proceedings ſince laſt General Aſſembly, and a ſtate of the fund under their management, given in, and ordered to lie on the table till Monday: And, upon a motion, the thanks of the Houſe were given from the chair to Sir Henry Moncreiff Wellwood for his fidelity, attention, and prudence, in the management of the fund.

A petition from the Preſbytery of Zetland, reſpecting a diſtemper among the ſheep in that country, was given in and read. The Aſſembly appointed the Moderator, accompanied by one or two Members, to lay the petition before the Lord Advocate, and requeſt his interpoſition in favour of the petitioners, in the manner which may appear to his Lordſhip moſt effectual.—And alſo appointed the Clerk of Aſſembly to write a letter to the Moderator of the Preſbytery of Zetland, informing them of what the Aſſembly had done in this affair.

An appeal by the Preſbytery of Langholm, againſt two ſeveral ſentences of the Synod of Dumfries, reſpecting Mr John Telfer, ſchoolmaſter of Langholm. Parties were heard, firſt, upon the juriſdiction of the Synod; and the Aſſembly, without a vote, found, that the appeal from the Preſbytery of Langholm to the Synod of Dumfries, was competent: Therefore they affirmed the ſentence of the Synod of Dumfries, finding, that they had a right to review the whole procedure of the Preſbytery in this cauſe.—The conſideration of the other appeal from the ſentence of the Synod, reſpecting the merits of the cauſe, delayed till Monday.

Upon a motion, the Committee for bills appointed to meet this evening at ſeven o'clock.

Adjournment.

Monday,

Monday, May 31. 1790. *Seſſ. ult.*

Sederunt.

It was moved and unanimouſly agreed to, That the Procurator be authoriſed to pay to Mr William Murray, *jun.* writer, the ſum of L. 10, 10 s. Sterling, out of the public funds of the Church, as a compenſation for the trouble he has already had in arranging and making an inventory of the public papers of the Church; and Mr Murray appointed to proceed further in this buſineſs.

The report of the truſtees of the fund eſtabliſhed by act of Parliament, for a proviſion to Miniſters Widows, *&c.* again called for, and ordered to be recorded in the ſeparate regiſter kept for that purpoſe.

Report of the Committee for bills called for, given in, and read.

Liſt of Probationers produced, their names read out, and ordered to be recorded.

The report of the Committee on the public funds of the Church, and new applications thereanent, given in and read, and approved of without a vote.

The report of the Committee reſpecting the election of Members of Aſſembly, rejected *ſimpliciter*.

The cauſe reſpecting Mr Telfer, ſchoolmaſter of Langholm, referred to the Commiſſion.

And all other cauſes brought before this Aſſembly, and not determined by them, likewiſe referred to the Commiſſion.

A Committee named to reviſe the minutes of the Aſſembly's proceedings, at this and all other diets thereof, and to pitch upon ſuch of the Acts of the Aſſembly as are to be ſtanding rules, in order to their being printed.

The Moderator's ſpeech to the Aſſembly, and to his Grace the Commiſſioner.

The Lord High Commiſſioner's ſpeech to the Aſſembly.

See Printed Acts, No. VII. Act appointing next meeting of the Aſſembly.

The Aſſembly concluded with prayer, ſinging of pſalms, and pronouncing the bleſſing.

FINIS.